

By: Bohac

H.B. No. 730

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to a disclosure by an attorney before accepting
3 representation of a client in a suit for the dissolution of
4 marriage.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter E, Chapter 6, Family Code, is amended
7 by adding Section 6.412 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 6.412. DISCLOSURE REQUIRED. (a) An attorney may not
9 agree to represent a client in a suit for dissolution of a marriage
10 unless:

11 (1) the attorney provides the disclosure described by
12 Subsection (b) to the client; and

13 (2) the client acknowledges in writing that the client
14 has received and understands the disclosure.

15 (b) The State Bar of Texas shall adopt the disclosure form
16 required under this section. The disclosure must include:

17 (1) information about arbitration, mediation,
18 collaborative law, and alternatives to retaining an attorney for
19 the dissolution of a marriage; and

20 (2) any other information the state bar requires.

21 SECTION 2. (a) The State Bar of Texas shall adopt the
22 disclosure form required by Section 6.412, Family Code, as added by
23 this Act, not later than January 1, 2018.

24 (b) Section 6.412, Family Code, as added by this Act,

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1 applies to the representation of a client that begins on or after
2 March 1, 2018.

3 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.